



BILLING CODE 6717-01-P
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

FirstLight Hydro Generating Company

Project No. 2485-076

NOTICE OF APPLICATION ACCEPTED FOR FILING, SOLICITING COMMENTS,
MOTIONS TO INTERVENE, AND PROTESTS

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection:

- a. Type of Application: Application for Temporary Amendment of Minimum and Maximum Reservoir Elevation Requirement
- b. Project No.: 2485-076
- c. Date Filed: September 11, 2017, as supplemented on September 25, 2017
- d. Applicant: FirstLight Hydro Generating Company (FirstLight)
- e. Name of Project: Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Project
- f. Location: The project is located on the east side of the Connecticut River, in the towns of Northfield and Erving, in Franklin County, Massachusetts.
- g. Filed Pursuant to: Federal Power Act, 16 USC 791(a)-825(r).
- h. Applicant Contact: Mr. Douglas Bennett, General Plant Manager – Massachusetts Hydro, FirstLight Hydro Generating Company, Northfield Mountain Station, 99 Millers Falls Road, Northfield, MA 01360. Phone (413) 659-4489.
- i. FERC Contact: Mr. Christopher Chaney, (202) 502-6778, or christopher.chaney@ferc.gov.
- j. Deadline for filing comments, motions to intervene, and protests is **30 days from the issuance date of this notice by the Commission**. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file motions to intervene, protests, or comments using the Commission's eFiling system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>. Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior

registration, using the eComment system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/ecomment.asp>. You must include your name and contact information at the end of your comments. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, (866) 208-3676 (toll free), or (202) 502-8659 (TTY). In lieu of electronic filing, please send a paper copy to: Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426. Please include the project number (**P-2485-076**) on any comments, motions to intervene, or protests filed.

k. **Description of Request:** FirstLight is seeking authorization to modify the upper reservoir's upper and lower water surface elevation limits from 1,000.5 feet mean sea level (msl) and 938 feet msl, to 1,004.5 feet msl and 920 feet msl, respectively. FirstLight proposes to use the additional storage capacity between December 1, 2017, and March 31, 2018. According to FirstLight, approval of changes in the water surface elevation limits would result in an increase in the maximum daily generation from 8,729 megawatt-hours (MWh) to 10,779 MWh, and provide Independent System Operator-New England with additional resources to address winter reliability needs.

l. **Locations of the Application:** A copy of the application is available for inspection and reproduction at the Commission's Public Reference Room, located at 888 First Street, NE, Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426, or by calling (202) 502-8371. This filing may also be viewed on the Commission's website at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/elibrary.asp>. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document (*i.e.*, P-2485). You may also register online at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp> to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, call 1-866-208-3676 or e-mail FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, for TTY, call (202) 502-8659. A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in item (h) above.

m. **Individuals desiring to be included on the Commission's mailing list** should so indicate by writing to the Secretary of the Commission.

n. **Comments, Protests, or Motions to Intervene:** Anyone may submit comments, a protest, or a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.210, .211, .214. In determining the appropriate action to take, the Commission will consider all protests or other comments filed, but only those who file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules may become a party to the proceeding. Any comments, protests, or motions to intervene must be received on or before the specified comment date for the particular application.

o. **Filing and Service of Responsive Documents:** Any filing must (1) bear in all capital letters the title COMMENTS, PROTEST, or MOTION TO INTERVENE as applicable; (2) set forth in the heading the name of the applicant and the project number of the

application to which the filing responds; (3) furnish the name, address, and telephone number of the person protesting or intervening; and (4) otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 385.2001 through 385.2005. All comments, motions to intervene, or protests must set forth their evidentiary basis and otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 4.34(b). All comments, motions to intervene, or protests should relate to the amendment request. Agencies may obtain copies of the application directly from the applicant. A copy of any protest or motion to intervene must be served upon each representative of the applicant specified in the particular application. If an intervener files comments or documents with the Commission relating to the merits of an issue that may affect the responsibilities of a particular resource agency, they must also serve a copy of the document on that resource agency. A copy of all other filings in reference to this application must be accompanied by proof of service on all persons listed in the service list prepared by the Commission in this proceeding, in accordance with 18 CFR 4.34(b) and 385.2010.

DATED: September 28, 2017

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

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